

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE BIGFORK COUNTY  
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

The general meeting of the Bigfork County Water and Sewer District was held on February 8, 2017 at the District office. President Tom Cahill was unable to attend, so Vice-President, Eugene Helberg presided.

**ATTENDEES:**

*Directors: Gene Helberg, Seth Price; Tom Cahill and Randall Phelps (telephonically)*  
*District Employees: Julie Spencer*  
*Engineering: Jeff Cicon P.E. from Morrison Maierle*  
*Other Attendees: Robert Millspaugh from Flathead Lake Brewery*  
*Ken Ripple and Peggy Morris-developers*

**READ AND APPROVE MINUTES:**

Vice-President Helberg opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The minutes of the January Board Meeting were reviewed for approval. Helberg called for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was called. Price made a motion to approve, Cahill seconded and it was unanimously

*RESOLVED*, That the minutes for the January 2017 Board Meeting be approved as submitted.

**AGENDA - ADDITIONS OR CHANGES**

No changes were made to the agenda

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice-President Helberg called for discussion or questions about the consent agenda. Helberg called for a motion to approve. Phelps moved, Price seconded and it was unanimously

*RESOLVED*, That the items on the Consent Agenda be approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ken Ripple discussed his decision to develop a District property for senior rental housing. He and his wife Peggy purchased a lot in Crestview in order to build a single-level two-unit building. This challenging property had large set-backs, and the water and sewer services had not been stubbed off the mains. The estimates to connect to the sewer main which ran 14-feet deep through the middle of the block were not realistic. The contractor has had nearly \$10,000 in cost over-runs, with additional landscape repairs for the neighbors still required in the spring. The developer asked if the District would consider returning some of the \$16,500 hookup fees paid to develop this property to help recover some of the costs involved in the connecting to the main. Helberg asked to table the discussion until the March meeting when a full board should be present.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Engineering update, Jeff Cicon*

Cicon discussed his presentation in Helena for House Bill 14 on January 26. He attended for Julie when she was unable to go due to illness. He said there were several presenters for this program designed to help entities acquire grant monies that did not receive other funding. He has not heard how the bill is progressing.

- *Standpipe Supply Line and Lakeview Care Center main* – Jeff has updated the permanent easement for the main on the Little Jon Apartment property. A construction easement was obtained during the project since the property was in the process of ownership change.
- *Water Tank & Transmission Line and Access Easement* –Easement documents are updated; Cicon has send draft documents to Pierces. Cicon, Julie and Andy plan to meet with the Pierce family prior to the next meeting.
- *Ramsfield Water Rights Wells 3 & 4* – No updates.
- *Sludge Farm Irrigation System* –Cahill and Helberg attended the pre-bid conference on February 6<sup>th</sup> at the District office. The pre-bid meeting was well attended by prime and sub-contractors so bidding should be competitive. The project bid opening was pushed back to February 16; Cicon anticipates awarding the project at the March board meeting. The disturbance area was 20 feet for the contractor to install the pipe, but was pushed back to 35 feet to give the contractor extra room to work. An addendum will go out on Thursday February 9, 2017.
- *North & South Eagle Bend Lift Stations* – A pre-construction conference was held on January 27. The notice to proceed may be signed at the next Board meeting. Work could begin in mid-March, depending on the weather and lift station delivery. Jeff said that the generator pad locations have been staked out for the natural gas company. Jeff There was discussion about the fence and a proposed gate between Mill Creek and Pinehurst.
- *Sludge Farm Blowers and Electrical* – Cicon said they have evaluated downsizing the sludge farm blowers to 20 HP to keep electrical needs down. There does not appear to be a lot of saving in downsizing the blowers. A report will be available in draft form soon.
- *Flathead Lake Brewery Pretreatment System* – They pumped out the tanks to begin the internal work. The pumps are in but they received single-phase instead of three-phase. They are hoping to do the electrical work next week.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Bigfork County Dock / Bay Lift Station* –No discussion.

*MBR Membranes Purchase*-- No discussion.

*District Board Financial Training* – Flathead County will be presenting Board Financial Training on February 28<sup>th</sup> at the Flathead County Offices at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

*Hookup variance-Ripple and Morris*—Tabled until next month.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Annexation, Main Extensions & Construction* ..... *Helberg & Cahill*  
*Eagle Bend Lift Station* – Discussed during Engineer’s Report

*District Investments* ..... *Price & Phelps*  
 No Updates

*Employee Insurance Compensation & Certification* ..... *Helberg & Keenan*  
Vickie has submitted her resignation effective March 15. Julie has received several resumes and will start interviewing candidates next week.

*Pretreatment Regulations* ..... *Cahill & Price*  
No Updates

*Budget & Rate Structure* ..... *Helberg & Phelps*  
No Updates

*Rules & Regulations* ..... *Cahill & Price*  
Still in progress

*Farmland*..... *Helberg, Cahill & Loudermilk*  
Grain Storage, Irrigation, Blowers - discussed in old business

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation approved the District's 10-year extension to complete the Water Rights appropriation for the Ramsfield wells.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Helberg called for a motion to adjourn. Price moved, Phelps seconded and it was unanimously

RESOLVED that the public meeting be adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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Secretary, Vickie D. Hemphill

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Meeting presided by:

Vice-President, Eugene Helberg